

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SIG-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01
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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 125126

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RH, PFOR, SF, UK

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH THE UK ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

REF: LONDON 08798

1. ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON, UK EMBOFF INFORMED AF
ON MAY 27 THAT BRITISH WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE WITH US
THE OPTIONS FOR FURTHER ACTIONS, SHORT OF CHAPTER VII
SANCTIONS, AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. UK BELIEVES THAT WE
SHOULD BE PREPARED, IF ONLY ON A CONTINGENCY BASIS, TO
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RESPOND TO PRESSURES THAT MAY BUILD UP IN THE NEXT UN
DEBATE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA. THE BRITISH INDICATED THAT
MANSFIELD WOULD BE PREPARED TO COME TO WASHINGTON AS
EARLY AS THE END OF THE WEEK OF MAY 30 FOR DISCUSSIONS.
AT THIS STAGE, THE BRITISH ARE PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN
LEARNING ABOUT AND RESPONDING TO US IDEAS ABOUT NEXT
STEPS. BRITISH APPROACH SEEMS TO BE FOLLOW-ON TO

MANSFIELD-MAYNES CONVERSATION REPORTED REFTEL.

2. WE ARE PREPARED TO MEET WITH THE BRITISH TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS ON SOUTH AFRICA, BUT BELIEVE THAT BECAUSE DEMANDS IN THE UN WILL INCREASE FOR ACTION ON NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICAN APARTHEID AS WELL AS RHODESIA,

WE SHOULD ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO DISCUSS THE APPROPRIATE PRESSURES, ECONOMIC AND OTHERWISE, TO APPLY ON ALL THREE SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES. YOU WILL RECALL THAT AT THE APRIL 27-28 MEETINGS IN LONDON SECRETARY OWEN AGREED THAT THE US AND UK SHOULD SET UP A JOINT GROUP TO STUDY THE QUESTION OF ADDITIONAL PRESSURES ON RHODESIA. WE ARE ALREADY WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE UK ON NAMIBIA IN THE FIVE POWER CONTACT GROUP. WE WOULD SEE THE PROPOSED JOINT US-UK DISCUSSIONS AS SUPPLEMENTING AND FACILITATING, RATHER THAN BYPASSING, THE FIVE POWER GROUP'S EFFORTS. THE WORKING GROUP WOULD NOT MAKE DECISIONS. RATHER, IT WOULD PROVIDE THE BEST POSSIBLE ANALYTICAL AND FACTUAL BASE FOR COORDINATION AND DECISIONS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL. ESPECIALLY ON NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA, THE US AND UK WILL HAVE TO COORDINATE CLOSELY WITH THE OTHER WESTERN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. HOW THIS COORDINATION SHOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED COULD BE ONE OF THE TOPICS IN THE INITIAL CONVERSATIONS.

3. FYI ONLY. WE UNDERSTAND THAT FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN INTENDS TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF NEXT STEPS REGARDING SOUTH AFRICA WITH THE SECRETARY AT THEIR MEETING DURING CONFIDENTIAL

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THE CIEC CONFERENCE. WE SUSPECT THAT OWEN MAY BE LOOKING FOR COMMITMENTS FROM THE US - FOR EXAMPLE, TO OPPOSE CHAPTER VII FINDINGS ON NAMIBIA OR SOUTH AFRICAN APARTHEID - THAT WILL LIMIT OUR OPTIONS IN THE FUTURE. THE SECRETARY PLANS TO COUNTER THAT WE DO NOT WISH TO FORECLOSE ANY OPTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL PRESSURES AND THAT WE MUST DISCUSS APPROPRIATE STEPS TO TAKE ON ALL THREE SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS. HE WILL SUGGEST THAT TO ACCOMPLISH THIS A U.K.-U.S. WORKING GROUP BE ESTABLISHED. END FYI. -

4. THEREFORE, EMBASSY LONDON SHOULD APPROACH FCO TO RESPOND TO BRITISH OFFER OF MEETINGS. YOU SHOULD STATE THAT WE ENVISION THE WORKING GROUP WILL DEAL WITH ALL THREE PROBLEMS AND SUGGEST THAT THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION, SHOULD THE FCO APPROVE, WOULD BE FOR UK EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND DEPARTMENT TO BEGIN WORK IMMEDIATELY ON A DRAFT AGENDA FOR A MEETING AT THE OFFICIAL-TECHNICAL LEVEL TO BE HELD SOON. WE WOULD EXPECT THE MEETING TO

TAKE PLACE APPROXIMATELY TEN DAYS AFTER THE DRAFT
AGENDA IS COMPLETED. WE WOULD PREFER WASHINGTON, AS
THE VENUE , BUT WILL GO ALONG WITH LONDON IF THE UK
INSISTS. WE WILL INFORM UK EMBASSY HERE OF SUBSTANCE
OF THIS MESSAGE. CHRISTOPHER

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